NC Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday August 23, 2007
In the NC DOT Small Conference Room in the DOT Bldg on Beryl Road in Raleigh NC

Present: Brian Mayhew, L C Smith, Terry Hopkins, Sgt. Jerry Burton, John Stokes, Janet Greene, Joe Geigle, Carol Martell, Jun Wu, and Eric Rodgman.

9:15 am Brian Mayhew opened the meeting by introducing the agenda for the day. Issues included more on proposed project benchmarks and performance measures for future efforts, a possible planning retreat for the NC TRCC, status of the 2007 NC TRCC Strategic Plan, latest info on the MV fatality trend in NC, role of the NC TRCC in the future, and quick updates from all the NC TRCC agencies present.

L C Smith gave an updated overview of how the GIS section has been recently re-organized. The GIS Unit was divided into 2 units:

> -The Information, Mapping, and Graphic Units - L.C. Smith, Director. This unit is responsible for maintaining the Universe file of roadway characteristics for NC's public roads, prepares and submits the HPMS report to the FHWA, maintains and publishes county maps, urban maps, the State Transportation Map, and State Boating Guide. We provide historical documentation and research regarding the state maintained system of highways for DOT units and external customers, including the public. We provide renderings or visualizations of 'conceptual' transportation projects for DOT planners, engineers, etc.

> -The GIS Unit- John Farley, Director. This unit is responsible for GIS application development including development of the LRS and tools to maintain that system. They support the department with GIS based products and services as needed including the usage of spatial data for all types of analysis. This unit is developing a geospatial database for the department. (thx to L C for these more accurate descriptions).

9:22 am Brian Mayhew opened a discussion of the NC strategic plan and the requested clarifications that NHTSA sent back. The time to respond was short, but NHTSA has accepted the clarifications that were sent back. John Stokes noted that it may be possible that NC would hear about the most recent data improvement proposal submitted sometime in the next 2 weeks. John added that the NC TRCC website should now display the Final NC Assessment Report, the 2007 Strategic Plan (he will send the final document to Eric via email) with all the follow-up clarifications which followed.

Brian then passed out some handouts showing the current stats on NC Motor Vehicle fatal crashes and fatalities. The trends are going up dramatically. If it continues, the 2007 fatality total may levels not seen since the 1970s. L C Smith noted that NC has seen a remarkable increase in registered vehicles in the last 2-3 years. There was also some discussion about the vehicle volume (ADT) counts, increased traffic volume statewide.

9:45 am Brian and John began to discuss the TRCC Core System benchmarking. The example (via handout) they shared was the citation data system by AOC. Their handout provided an excellent example of how to show benchmark changes in order to document progress on that project effort. Everyone should work toward providing these types on benchmarks and measures in their proposals and progress reports.

John added that it was already time to start thinking about new projects / concepts, and , if you have any, to send them to him.

The issue of integration and data access was discussed as an item to keep working on ways to improve. The accessibility and integration of data amongst the TRCC systems is always a goal when the needs are there. John added that the issue of accessibility was and should be a part of the next strategic planning iteration. Jerry Burton of the SHP noted that the quality of the data captured by any core system should be monitored.

10:11 am Brian opened the floor to discussion of the future roles of the NC TRCC. A planning retreat would be a great opportunity to discuss what the NC TRCC should/could accomplish.

The topic of NC TRCC retreat was also discussed. This retreat could cover benchmarks and performance measures for the Core Systems, provide a venue to share knowledge of the core systems and challenges they face, discuss the vision of the NC TRCC and work towards further identifying short term and long term plans.

Janet Greene added that the NC TRCC should have overview of all the core systems available to everyone. A brief description about each core system, what data they have, how they store it, and who to contact for further information.

Brian noted that NC was not yet a CODES state. Perhaps there was the possibility of correcting the problems – somehow overcome the obstacles that have prevented this to date.

Brian noted that Wisconsin had a state guide book which was a valuable resource. NC may want to create a similar sort of document. If NC were to produce such a resource discussion would need to take place on funding, resources to develop the manual, and the sustainability of such a project. John said he would email the group to solicit more ideas and suggestions.

Brian noted that the NC TRCC next meeting was set for HSRC on October 11, 2007. Brian suggested that the next meeting have either Greg Mears, Chad Lohmeier, and or Sharon Schiro present the latest on their medical related databases and systems. Eric will send an email to explore this possibility.

10:50 am L C Smith updated the committee on the CGIA county road maps project which is ongoing. The GIS group was waiting to see the demo of this system (It needed to be done before the end of September – the end of the project). Carol asked if this project was related to the NC ONEmap project. It was. That project should be included in the NC Strategic Plan.

11:01 am Jerry Burton noted the SHP had 205 computers (?) and the support equipment available. Using TRACS, it would be possible to deliver data within 48 hours or less. They are waiting on the software installation, installation in the vehicles, and trooper training (usually takes about 6 weeks). He estimated that it would take about a year and half to do the entire patrol (about 1350 troopers statewide) once started. By mid-October (hopefully), the goal is 450 (?) or so to be in the field and working. The SHP training sites are located in Raleigh, Salemburg, and Edneyville NC. The SHP is still waiting on getting the trainers and computer support staff to install equipment, help to load the software programs, and then provide the necessary application instruction.

Brian noted that the SHP should be looking to replace these MDT units as they age out. Jerry noted their plan was set up to replace about 25% of their MDTs each year.

At the end of the day, Janet Greene noted that AOC eCitation project and system won a national award. Congratulations AOC!!

11:15 am The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted – NC TRCC Co-chair Eric Rodgman.

Important upcoming dates / deadlines:

October 11, 2007 -- next NC TRCC meeting -- more on that soon as details are set .

For information on the NC TRCC, see the web site: http://www.hsrc.unc.edu/nctrcc/